

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, November 13th, 2011

Schedule of Services

November 13th 22nd Sunday after Pentecost, tone 5 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy (<i>Fr. Justin in Georgetown Mission</i>)
November 14th Monday 7:30 p.m. Late Vocations Class: Church History
November 15th Tuesday Nativity Fast Begins 7:00 a.m. Matins 6:30 p.m. <i>Pan Orthodox Unction, St. Seraphim's Cathedral, Dallas</i>
November 16th Wednesday 7:00 a.m. Matins 7:00 p.m. Vespers 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy
November 17th Thursday 7:00 a.m. Matins 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
November 18th Friday 7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession 4:00 p.m. Adult Class: The Psalms 7:00 p.m. <i>Russian Vespers, Confession, Dallas</i>
November 19th Saturday 9:30 a.m. <i>Russian Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim's, Dallas</i> 5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession
November 20th 23rd Sunday after Pentecost, tone 6 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Mission Council 6:00 p.m. Vigil for the Entrance of the Theotokos

The intelligence by nature submits to the Logos and disciplines and subjugates the body.

It is an insult to the intelligence to be subject to what lacks intelligence and to concern itself with shameful desires.

For the deiform soul to abandon the Creator and worship the body is an act of depravity.

You were commanded to keep the body as a servant, not to be unnaturally enslaved to its pleasures.

St. Thalassios the Libyan, 400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 2.5-

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission
belongs to the Diocese of the South, Orthodox Church in America

Announcements for November 13th

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee and conversation. If you would, fill out a visitor's card for us and leave it in the basket on the table by the door.

To All: Please be aware that Holy Communion is open only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves for worthy participation in the Mystery through prayer, fasting, and a recent confession to a priest (within the last month or so). We should be modestly dressed (so as not to distract others) and present to hear "Blessed is the Kingdom" at the beginning of the Liturgy (in *unusual* circumstances no later than the Gospel reading), and not leave until the dismissal at the end.

Church School meets today after Liturgy.

A Pan-Orthodox Unction Service, one of the seven Mysteries of the Church, will be served Tuesday, November 15, at St. Seraphim's Cathedral, 6:30 p.m. to mark the beginning of the Nativity Fast. To partake of Unction, you must be Orthodox and have had a recent Confession.

Classes this Week

Monday, 7:30 p.m.: Late Vocations Church History

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.: Basics of Orthodoxy Class: Introductory Session 4: The Church and the Scriptures: Interpretation

Friday, 4:00 p.m.: Adult Class: Psalms.

Mission Council meets next Sunday after Liturgy.

The Entrance of the Theotokos will be celebrated with a special Vigil next Sunday at 6:00 p.m. with settings which we have done before only at the All-Night Vigils. A number of lovely, festive Byzantine settings will be used. Come and see! Divine Liturgy will be served the next morning. This is one of the Twelve Great Feasts, and we do well to make the effort to keep the feast by attending at least part of its cycle of services.

The Seventh Annual Winter Service Retreat will be held December 26 through January 1 at St. George's Orthodox Church in Pharr, Texas. Cost is \$225 a person. Fr. Meletios Webber will be the speaker. Make financial plans now!

Tithes, Offerings & Attendance: Bringing our tithes and offerings to the temple of God is part of our worship of God, which also supports our efforts to proclaim the fullness of the Gospel of Christ in Denton through the establishment of a permanent Orthodox parish and new missions in Denton County and north Texas. Checks should be made out to St. Maximus Orthodox Church

and placed in the basket on the candle table, where there is also a box for alms (those in need).

Last week we gave \$1409.75; our monthly budget is \$8179 (\$2045 per week). In addition: Building Fund, \$0, Candles \$94; May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 31, Liturgy 54.

Hall Expansion Fund: A Total of \$52,095.17 has been raised so far of the estimated \$62,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

Expansion Update: We have approval from the city for our expansion. We need to get the construction documents stamped by the architect and then we can get the building permit and start building.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: David Eaton who is preparing for Holy Illumination; Sean Chaney, Caleb Rehmet, Elizabeth Dakak, and Hunter Bellan; and for our inquirers Joel and Mindy Brown, Shane and Ashley Gibson, Philip Smith, and Virginia Warwas. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna Hall.

The Nativity Fast

The Nativity Fast, the 40-day period of preparation for the Nativity of our Lord, begins Tuesday, November 15 and lasts until the Liturgy the morning of the Nativity of Our Lord, December 25. We keep the Fast by prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for our spiritual benefit: for repentance, healing, cleansing, growth, and, ultimately— or knowing Christ more intimately and being filled afresh with His Spirit. We abstain from meat, dairy products, fish, wine, and oil (see wall calendar for when fish, wine, and oil are permitted) and marital relations so that we can give ourselves to prayer and spiritual reading and have extra means for almsgiving. Please see your priest if you have any questions or concerns.

From Saint Maximus

Cleanse your intellect from anger, rancor, and shameful thoughts, and you will be able to perceive the indwelling of Christ.

Who enlightened you with faith in the holy, Coessential, adorable Trinity? Or who made known to you the incarnate dispensation of one of the Holy Trinity? Who taught you about the inner essences of incorporeal beings, or about the origin and consummation of the visible world, or about the resurrection from the dead and eternal life, or about the glory of the kingdom of heaven and the dreadful judgment? Was it not the grace of Christ dwelling in you, which is the pledge of the Holy Spirit? What is greater than this

grace? What is more noble than this wisdom and knowledge? What is more lofty than these promises? But if we are lazy and negligent, and if we do not cleanse ourselves from the passions which defile us, blinding our intellect and so preventing us from seeing the inner nature of these realities more clearly than the sun, let us blame ourselves and not deny the indwelling of grace.

400 Chapters on Love, 4.76-77

Troparia and Kontakia for November 13th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 5

Let us the faithful hymn and worship the Word / who with the Father and the Spirit hath no beginning, / and was born for our salvation of the Virgin; / for He was pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, / and to endure death / and to raise the dead / by His glorious Resurrection.

St. John Chrysostom, Troparion, tone 8

Grace shining forth from thy lips like a beacon hath enlightened the universe. / It hath shown to the world the riches of poverty. / It hath revealed to us the heights of humility. / Teaching us by thy words, O Father John Chrysostom, // intercede before the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 5

Thou didst descend to Hades, O my Savior; / and, having shattered its gates as all-powerful; / Thou as Creator didst raise the dead with Thee; / and Thou didst destroy the sting of death, / and Adam hath been delivered from the curse, O Lover of Man. / Wherefore, we all cry: Save us, O Lord!

St. John Chrysostom, Kontakion, tone 6

From heaven thou didst receive divine grace, / and with thy lips thou dost teach all to worship the one God in Trinity, / O most blessed and venerable John Chrysostom. / We praise thee as is meet, / for thou art our teacher, // in that thou revealest things divine.